-旧約青春麻雀物語-
(バーナルマージャンストーリー)

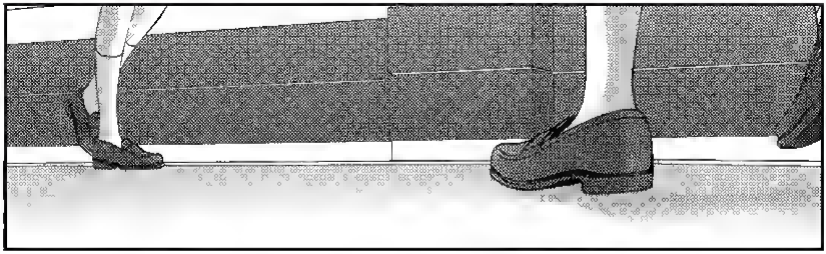
シノハユ

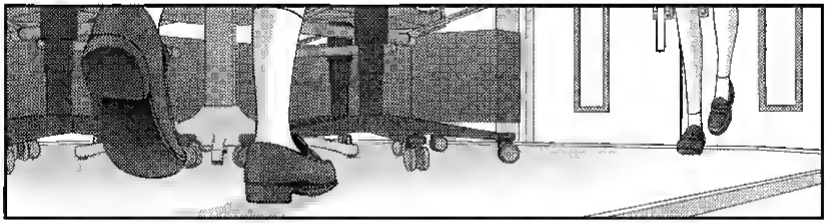
SHINOHAYU

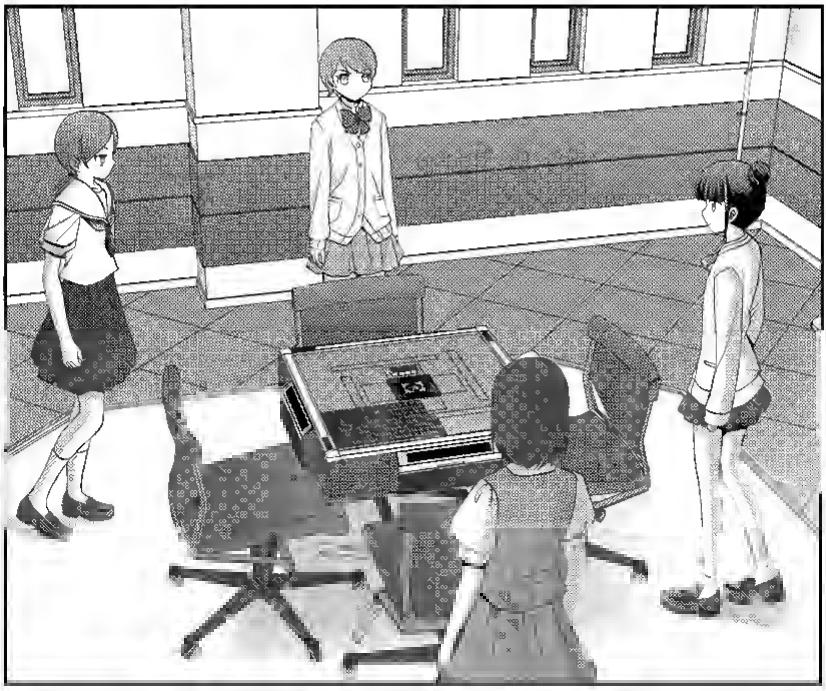
the dawn of age

Story: Kobayashi Ritz　　Art: Igarashi Aguri

Chapter 48: Vertical Style







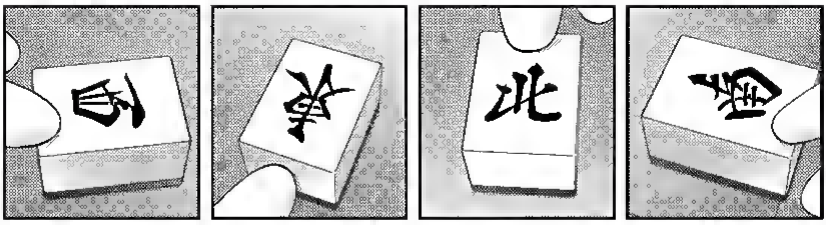
YUMACHI MS 1ST YEAR
151CM TYPE A
INAMURA KYOUKA

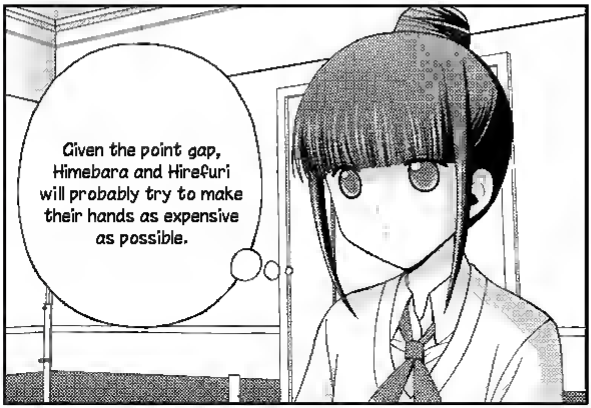
HIREFURI MS 3RD YEAR
153CM TYPE O
TAKESHIGE KAYO

HIMEBARA MS 3RD YEAR
156CM TYPE B
SAITOU MISAKI

KOMOSAWA MS 3RD YEAR
158CM TYPE A
KAJINO YUI

YUI
OH, TAKE-CHAN
BUT WE EARNED LESS POINTS THAN USUAL TOO
YEAH, IT'S EVEN BIGGER THAN USUAL THIS YEAR.
THE GAP BETWEEN YOUR TEAM AND MINE HAS GROWN TO 80000 POINTS, EH?
AH YEAH, BUT THERE'S A DARK HORSE THIS TIME.
WELL, I DON'T THINK WE WOULD HAVE FALLEN THIS FAR BEHIND IF YOUR TEAM WAS THE ONLY ONE RUNNING WILD
.....
I guess that's us...
A dark horse...





YUMACHI ★
104200

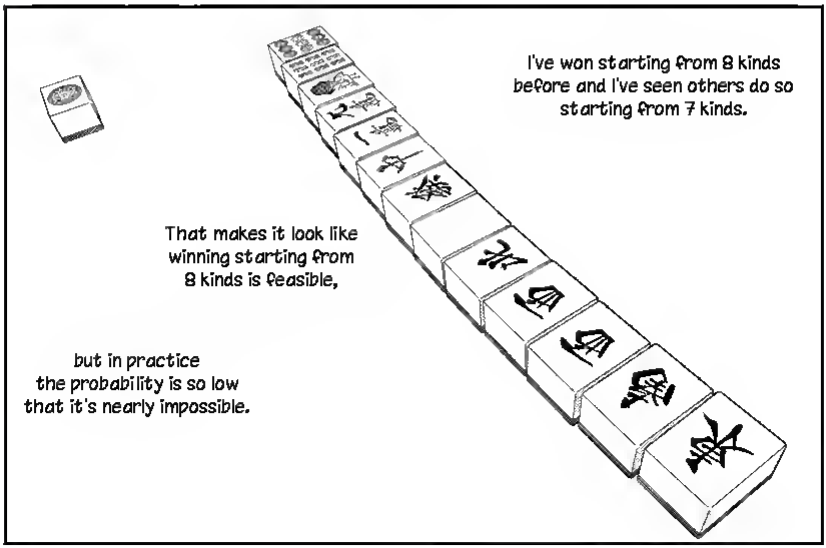
KOMOSAWA ★
96200

HIMEBARA
27300

HIREFURI
12300

but I must be careful not to get hit by a big one.
That should make their hands slow,

Should I try and get Kokushi with this point gap?
8 kinds, 9 tiles, huh?
No wait, with only 8 kinds the chances of winning are too low.

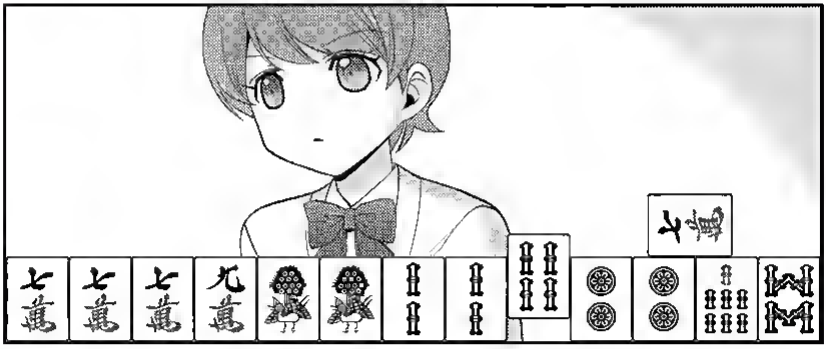

I've won starting from 8 kinds before and I've seen others do so starting from 7 kinds.
That makes it look like winning starting from 8 kinds is feasible,
but in practice the probability is so low that it's nearly impossible.

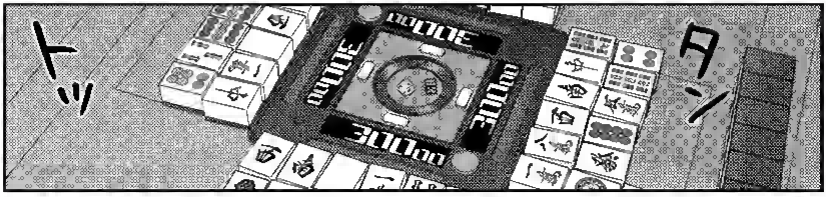
If I wasn't the dealer I might try it anyway, but it's my dealer turn so...
I'm not going to aim for Kokushi.
!
PON
She's on the attack.
Well, she's the dealer after all.

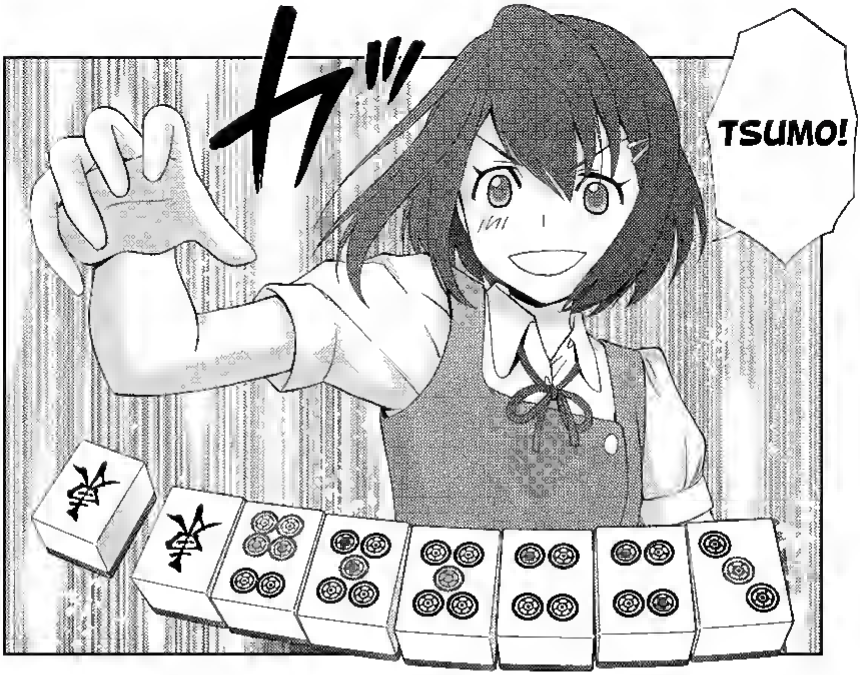
チャッ
四萬
東
中
OH, SO SHE WON'T BE TRYING TO GET A PINZU HONITSU, HUH?
CHI
コト

HOW CAN SHE ABANDON THE HONITSU SO EASILY WITH THIS POINT GAP?
.....

and I'm still in 2-shanten...
The dealer called twice...
Time to fold...?




トン
ターン

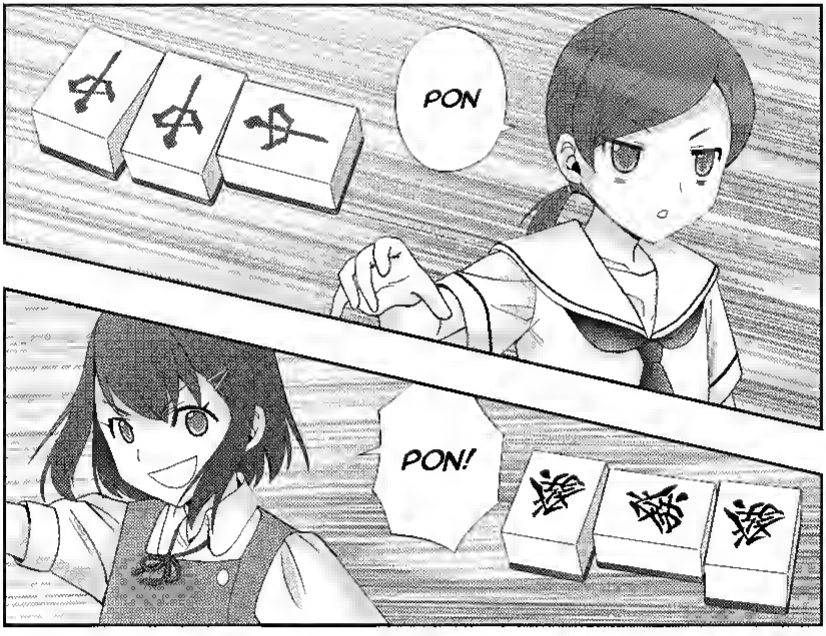

TSUMO!

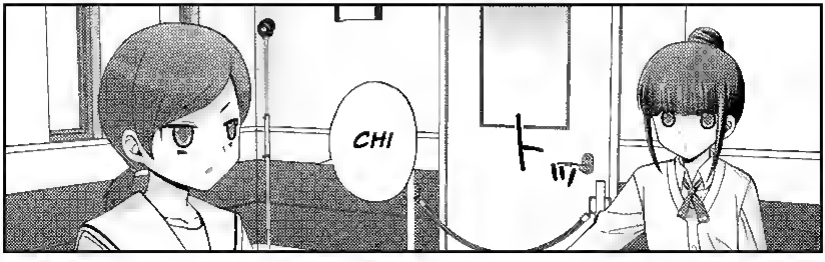
!
700 ALL!!

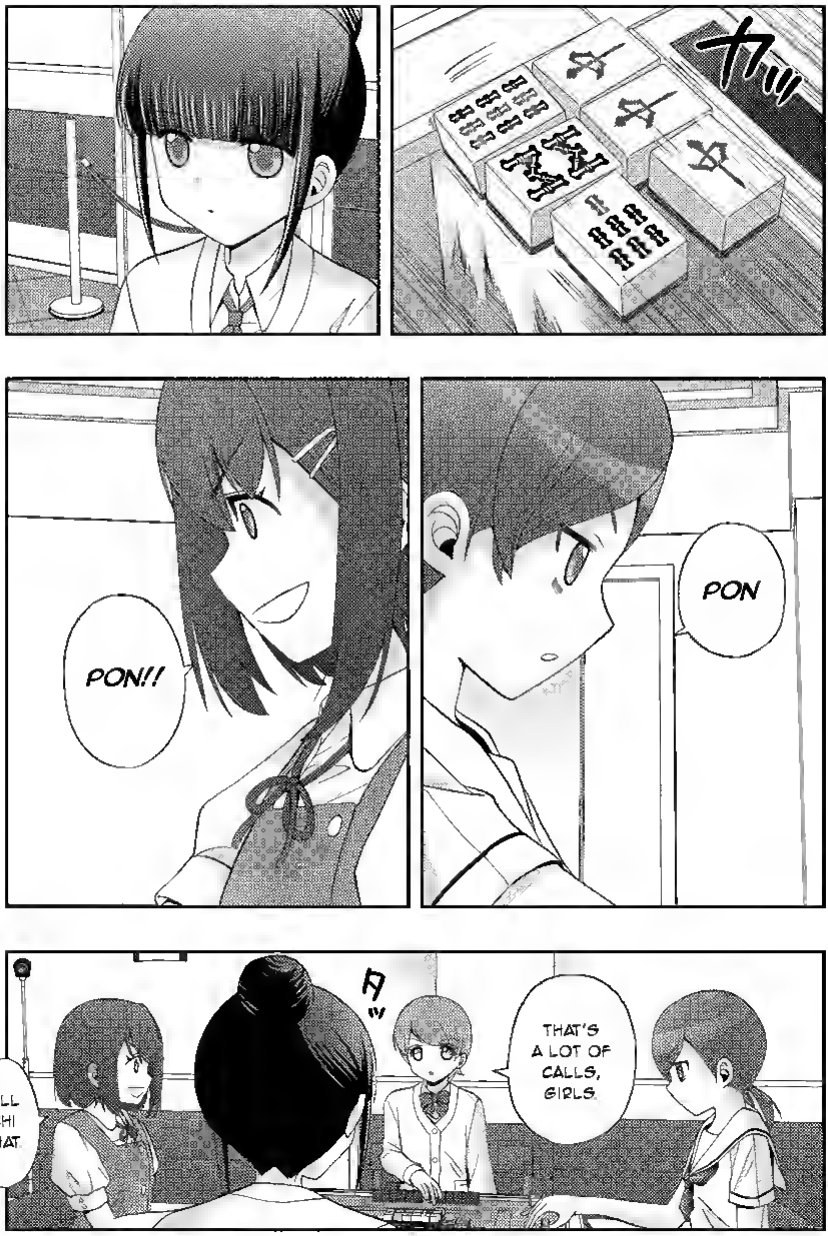
She's the dealer so I understand her giving priority to getting a dealer repeat but still...
Only hatsu 発 ...

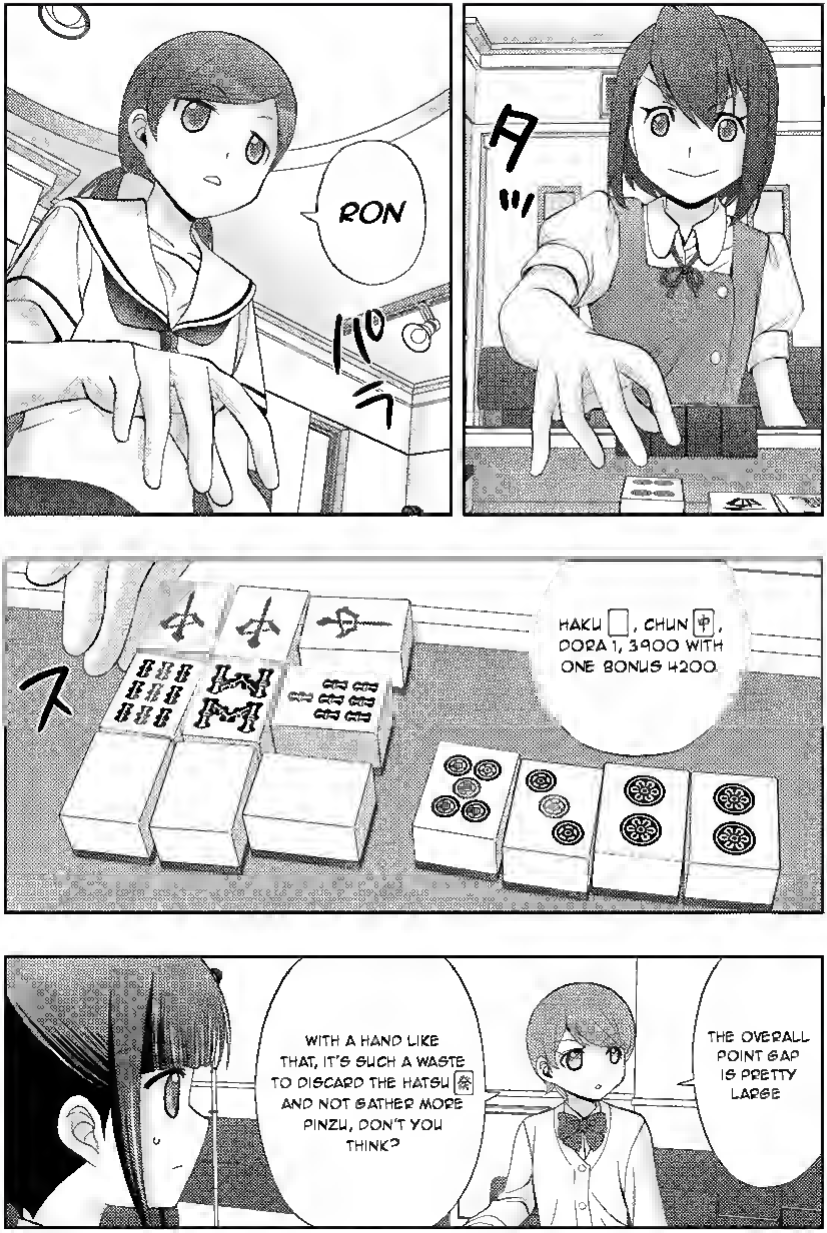
HA!
BETTER 2100 POINTS THAT CAN BE WON THAN 5800 THAT CAN'T!
HIREFURI'S ACE, THIS YEAR...
...COULD IT BE YOU, TAKE-CHAN?
HMM...
IT'S EITHER ME OR TERADO SO...
YEAH, I THINK IT'S ME.

East 1
Bonus 1


PON
PON!


CHI

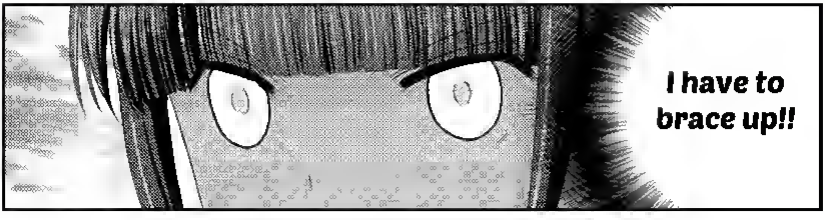

PON!!
PON
THAT'S A LOT OF CALLS, GIRLS.
I'LL CHI THAT.

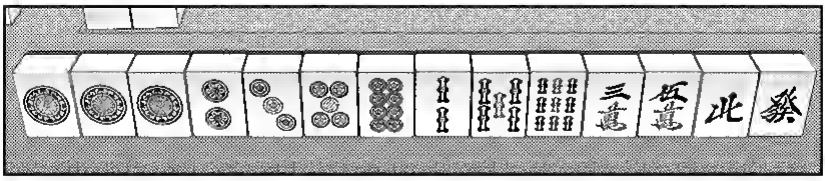

RON
HAKU 白, CHUN 中, DORA 1, 3900 WITH ONE BONUS 4200.
WITH A HAND LIKE THAT, IT'S SUCH A WASTE TO DISCARD THE HATSU 發 AND NOT GATHER MORE PINZU, DON'T YOU THINK?
THE OVERALL POINT GAP IS PRETTY LARGE

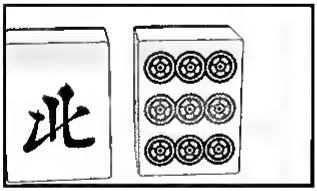
WELL NO, I'M NOT GIVING YOU THE PLEASURE OF MAKING MY MOVES SO EASY TO READ
SO THE SCHOOLS THAT LAG BEHIND IN THE OVERALL SCORE WILL ALWAYS AIM FOR BIG HANDS EXCEPT DURING THEIR DEALER TURNS, HUH?

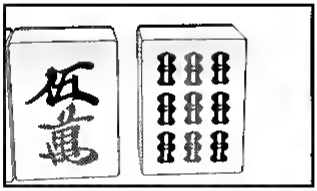
カラ カラ
...is hard.
As expected, the prefectural final...
I couldn't avoid her calling 3 of my tiles.

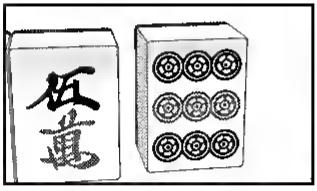
East 2
And now it's my dealer turn...

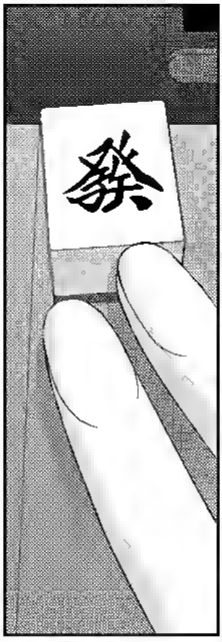

I have to brace up!!

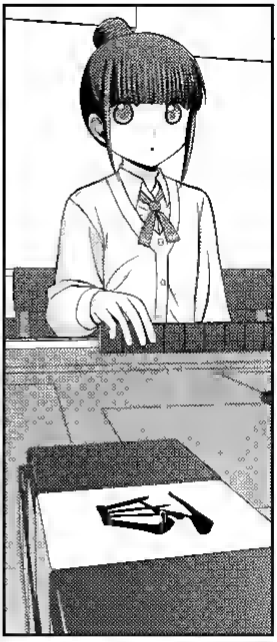

三萬
伍萬
北
發

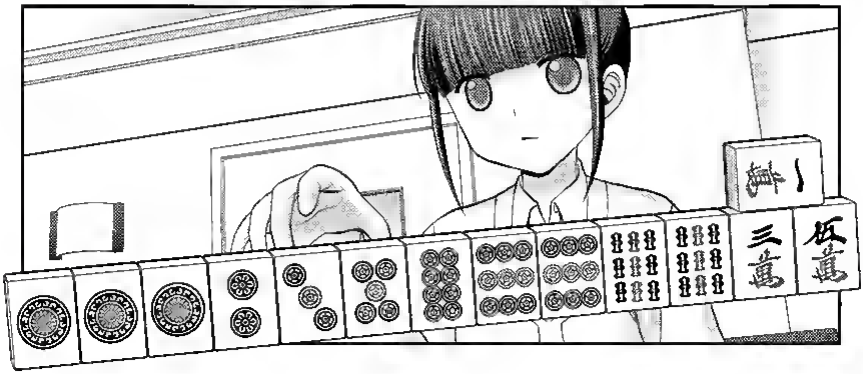

北


伍萬

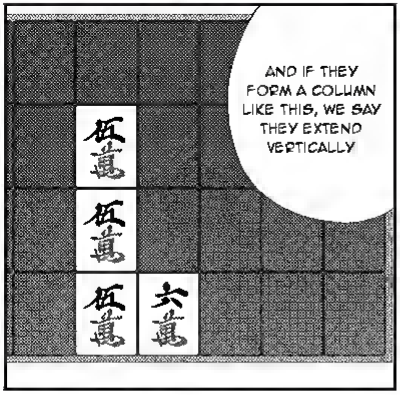

伍萬

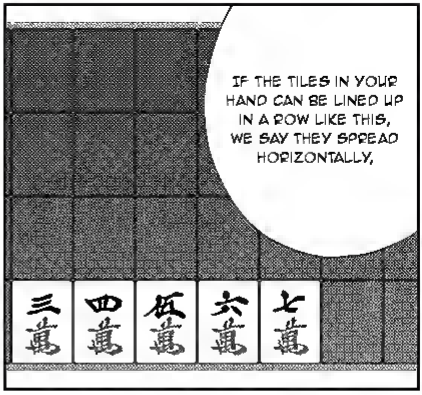

發



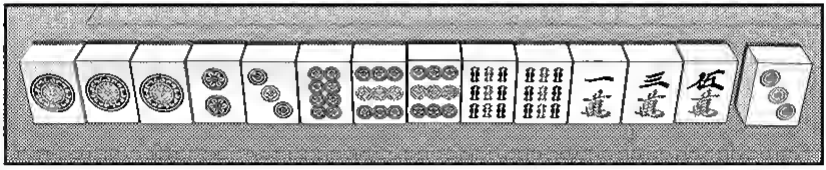

三萬
伍萬

SHIRATSUKI DOES THIS TOO SOMETIMES
SHE'S PLAYING IT TILE BY TILE, THIS LOOKS CHANTA-ISH!
NO, I... I DON'T GROW MY HANDS VERTICALLY AS MUCH AS KYOUKA-CHAN DOES.
...YOU THINK SO?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, "VERTICAL, HORIZONTAL," WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
LET'S SEE...
I LIKE TO THINK OF IT AS IF THE TILES WERE NEATLY PLACED INSIDE A BOX.
AH, YEAH... THAT.
LIKE THIS
SOMETIMES I GET CONFUSED TOO AND FORGET WHICH ONE IS WHICH


AND IF THEY FORM A COLUMN LIKE THIS, WE SAY THEY EXTEND VERTICALLY
伍萬
伍萬
伍萬
六萬


IF THE TILES IN YOUR HAND CAN BE LINED UP IN A ROW LIKE THIS, WE SAY THEY SPREAD HORIZONTALLY,
三萬
四萬
伍萬
六萬
七萬

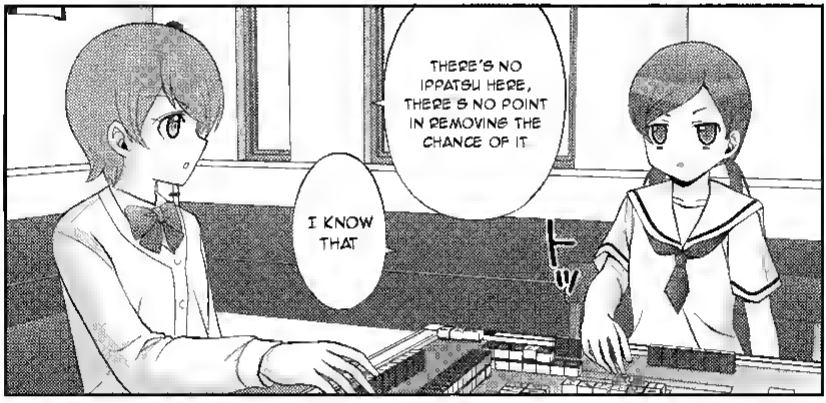
I SEE...
AH...

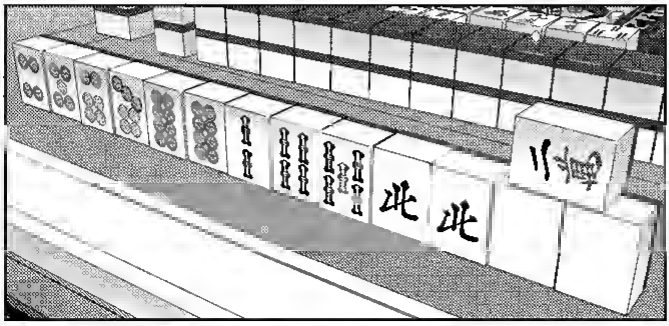

一萬
三萬
伍萬

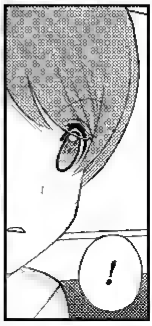
There's one 3-pin, one 1-man and one 2-man in the discards so for Kyouka-chan to reach 1-shanten, if she cuts the 1-man, there are 11 kinds, 30 tiles; if she cuts the 1-pin, 10 kinds, 29 tiles; and if it's the 5-man or the 8-pin, 11 kinds, 28 tiles.
If she thinks only of reaching tenpai, then she should discard the 1-man but discarding the 5-man is what will give her the best wait value, I think.

五萬
ヨッ
五萬
三萬
I'm the dealer so it's alright if I don't declare riichi but...
Tenpai...
一萬
三萬
發
北
五萬

RIICHI
CHI

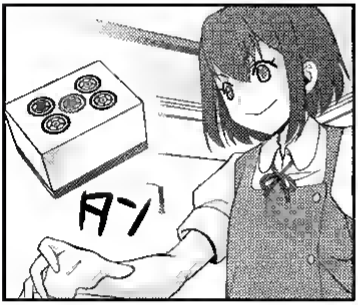

THERE'S NO IPPATSU HERE, THERE'S NO POINT IN REMOVING THE CHANCE OF IT
I KNOW THAT

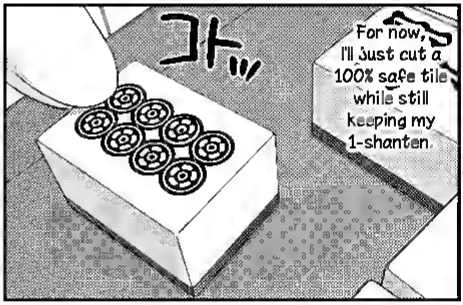



!

A riichi with this shape? And the 6-sou is the only tile she discarded right away...
Looks chanta-ish to me, and with that 5-man and the suji rule, the 2-man feels dangerous...

What's going on here...?
I don't like the smell of this...

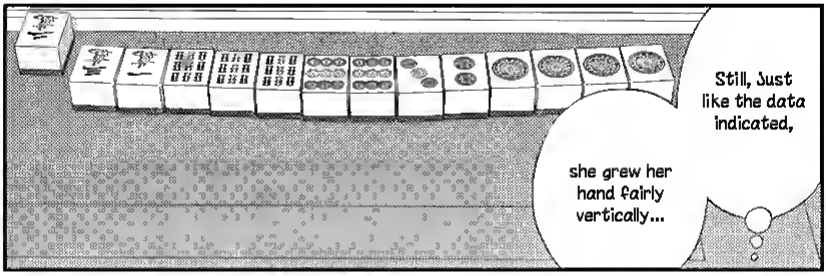

ロン!

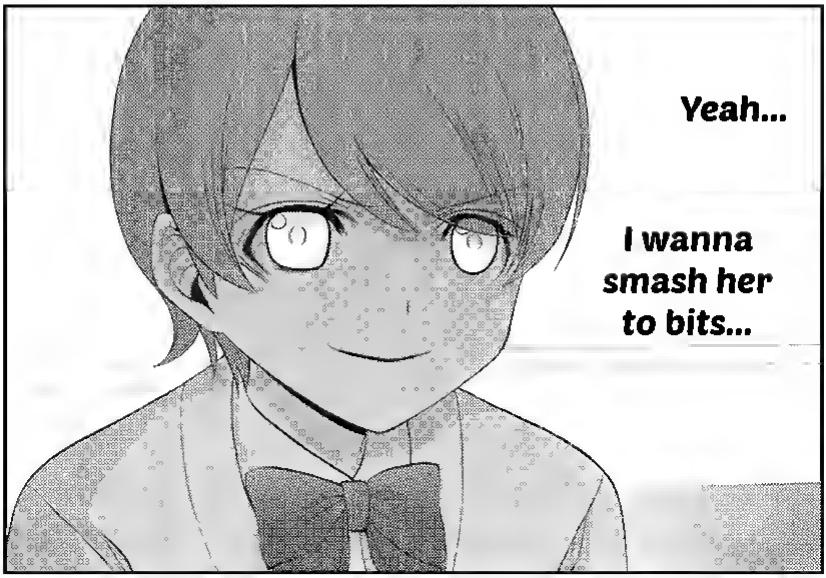

コト…
For now, I'll just cut a 100% safe tile while still keeping my 1-shanten.

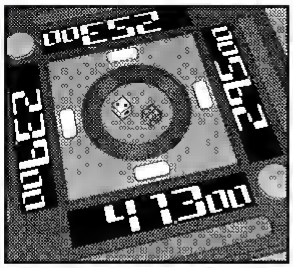
Have they folded, except for the one to my right...?

二萬
TSUMO!
4000 ALL!!
カン

I knew there was something smelly about the 2-man 二.
.....
HEAVY...

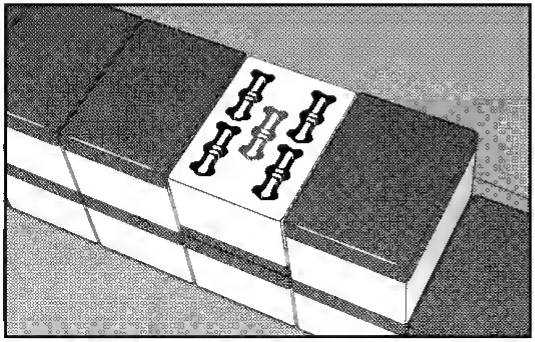

she grew her hand fairly vertically...
Still, just like the data indicated,

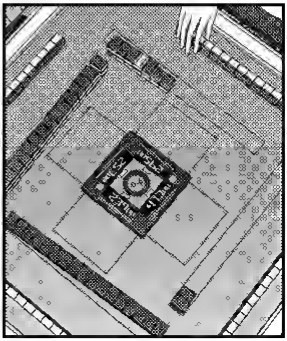

Yeah...
I wanna smash her to bits...

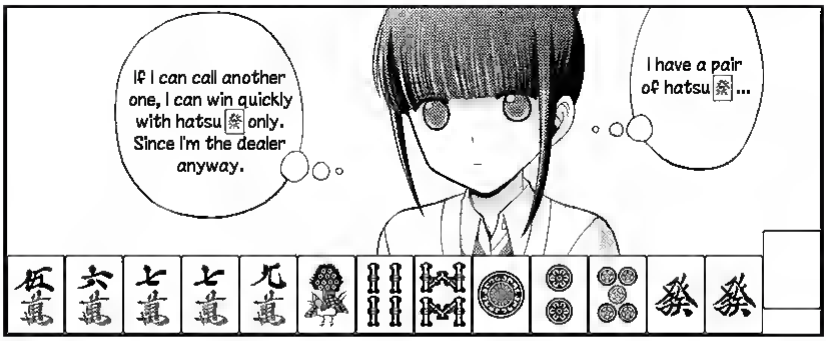

25300
25300
25300
47300

It's a good sign.
I'm glad I won this hand.

My opponents are all 3rd years from very strong schools.
But I can't relax yet.
This has only just begun.

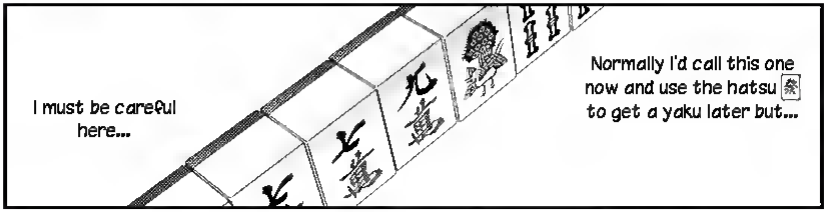




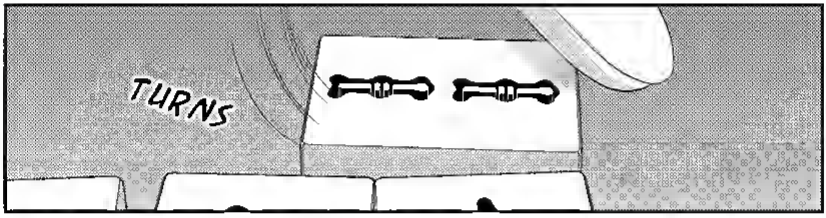

If I can call another one, I can win quickly with hatsu 發 only. Since I'm the dealer anyway.
I have a pair of hatsu 發...

PON

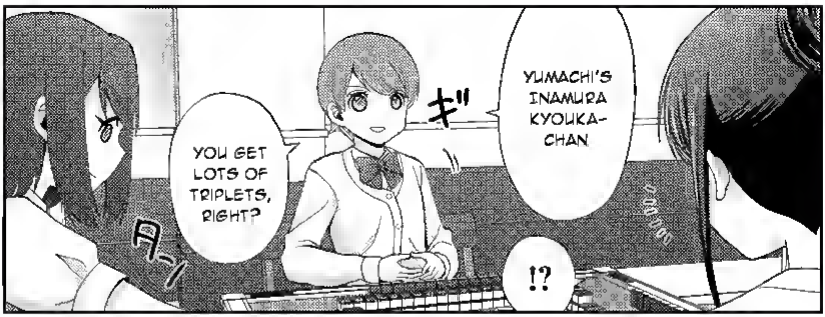
No wait... anything is possible with her.
Pei 北 only...?


I must be careful here...
Normally I'd call this one now and use the hatsu 發 to get a yaku later but...

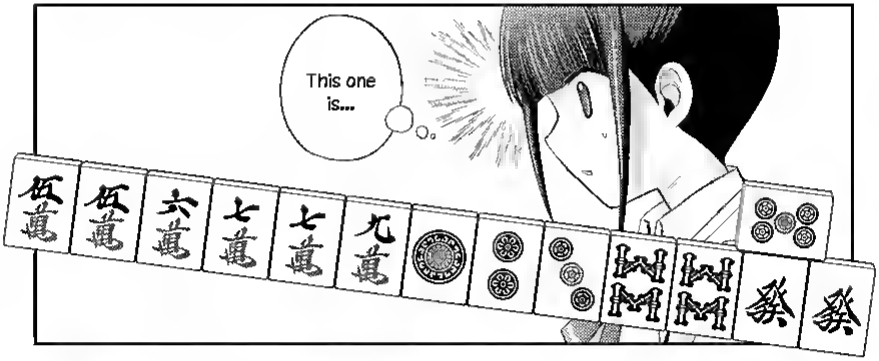
トン

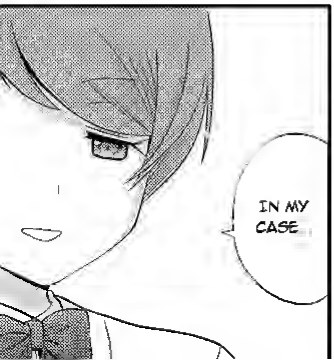

TURNS

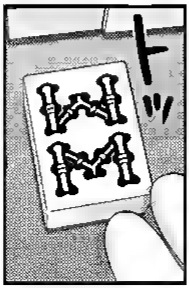
She turned it sideways!
RIICHI
リーチ!!

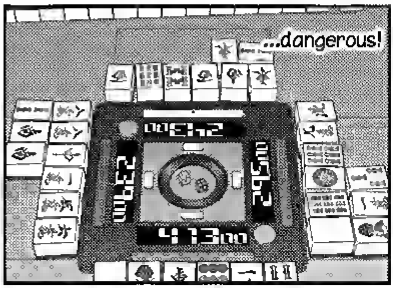

YUMACHI'S INAMURA KYOUKA-CHAN
!?
YOU GET LOTS OF TRIPLETS, RIGHT?

WELL YES, COMPARED TO MY TEAMMATES AT LEAST
I THINK IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE THOUGH


This one is....


IN MY CASE




...dangerous!

SOMETIMES I GET LOTS OF PAIRS...
!!
TSUMO!

RIICHI, TSUMO, CHIITOITSU, DORA 2.
3100/ 6100!!

オ
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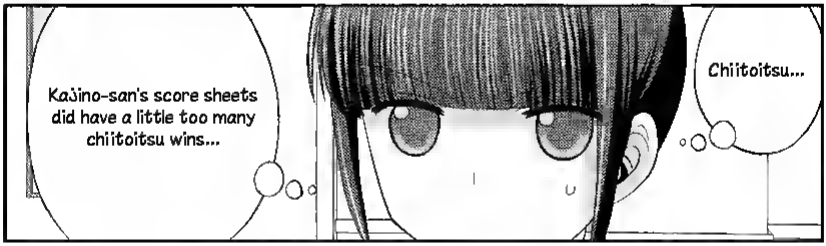
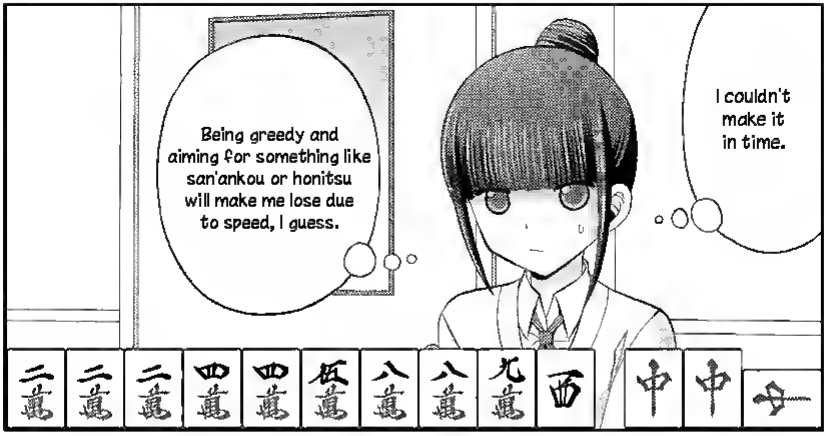

Kajino-san's score sheets did have a little too many chiitoitsu wins...
Chiitoitsu...

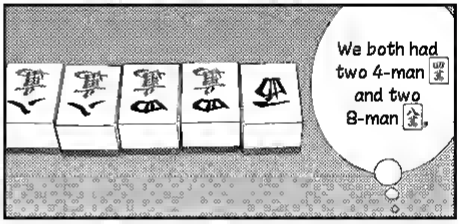
I COULD HAVE WON SOONER IF I HAD KEPT THE TON 東 AND THE SHA 赤
Does she really tend to grow her hands vertically like I do...?

East 3
She overtook me...
DOUBLE
35200

RON
Chiitoi again...!!
UGH!
Now she kept her tenpai hidden and waited for a dora honor, and one of them was already visible.
The other time she declared riichi...


Being greedy and aiming for something like san'ankou or honitsu will make me lose due to speed, I guess.
I couldn't make it in time.

but she could use them to win with chiitoi yet here I was having trouble...

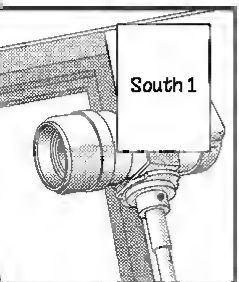

We both had two 4-man and two 8-man.

Is this the worst possible match-up!?

TSUMO!
East 4

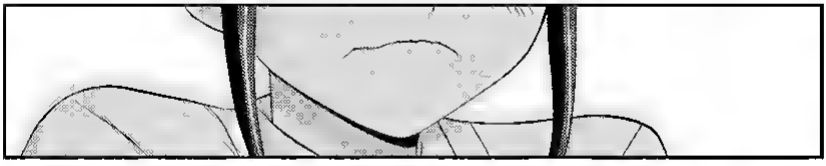
700/
1300!

ONLY TOITOI? IS THAT ALRIGHT?
IT'S A CHEAP ONE
THANK GOODNESS,


South 1

IT'S OK, I TOOK THE DEALERSHIP AWAY FROM THE LEADER

TSUMO!
RIICHI, PINFU, TSUMO, IIPEIKOU, DORA 2!!
!!
3000/ 6000!!



COLOR PAGES IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!

Continues September 25

AKIO TRANSLATIONS